

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A stent comprising:
 - a metallic stent body having a stent body surface;
 - a molecular carbon deposit present at a depth of not more than about 2000 Å beneath the stent body surface; and
 - a plasma-polymerized polymer film layer deposited over the stent body surface and in intimate contact with the stent body surface, wherein the plasma-polymerized film layer is chemically bonded to the carbon deposit.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the plasma-polymerized polymer film layer comprises an acrylate.
5. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the plasma-polymerized polymer film layer is formed by exposing the stent to an acrylic acid plasma.
6. (Currently Amended) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the plasma polymerized film layer comprises functional groups selected from [[a]]the group consisting of carboxylate, amine and sulfate.
7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the surface of the stent is the tissue-contacting surface of the stent.
9. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the metallic stent body comprises stainless steel.
10. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 1, further comprising a polymeric layer comprising a therapeutic substance formed on the plasma-polymerized polymer film layer.
11. – 12. (Cancelled)
13. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 1, wherein the metallic stent body comprises a radially expandable tubular body.
14. – 30. (Cancelled)
31. (Previously Presented) The stent of Claim 1, wherein the metallic stent body comprises an alloy.